SHADOW RAIDERS I

Episode 2
'On The Rocks'

ENGLISH DIALOGUE SCRIPT

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. THE IMPERIAL ICE CRUISER AURORA

It speeds through the empty space between the planets.

REVERSE ANGLE to show its destination -- PLANET ROCK.

PILOT (VO)
(1) King Cryos. Planet Rock coming into range.

CLOSER to see the BATTLE-MOONS encircling the planet. As they move in, two battle moons move in front of them and block their path.

INT. CRYOS' SHIP

GRAVEHEART and CRYOS are in the cockpit, viewing Planet Rock as it comes up rapidly.

CRYOS

(2) Rock's battle moons. Your planet's first and most formidable line of defense.

GRAVEHEART
(3) I understand they've stopped your armies on more than one occasion.

CRYOS
(4) Yes...they have. Perhaps this would be the best time for you to clear a path.

GRAVEHEART
(5) Don't look at me. I'm just a miner. Only quarriors have the access codes. I was hoping your diplomacy would see us through.

CRYOS
Diplomacy? With Lord Mantle? Impossible.

PILOT
(v.o)
(6) Your majesty. The moons are now active and locking in.

EXT. THE AURORA

As the ship gets closer, the two moons suddenly activate. Hidden cannons and defense weapons rise to the surface and swivel to track the approaching ship.

INT. THE AURORA

Off Cryos' look at Graveheart.

CRYOS
(to the Comm)
(9) Open a hailing frequency to the planet.

EXT. THE AURORA

The moons' defenses continue to track the Ice Cruiser as it flashes past.

INT. THE AURORA

A voice crackles over the ship's Comm system.

FELDSPAR (VO)
(angry, almost spitting it)
(10) You're in our sights, insect. State your mission!

CRYOS
(11) I am Cryos, Servant of the Glacier and King of Planet Ice.

FELDSPAR (VO)
(interrupting)
(12) Not good enough. Prepare to be destroyed.

GRAVEHEART
(13) Wait. This is Graveheart, Miner Granite Class. I'm accompanying the King and he wishes to invoke the Treaty of Four.

Graveheart and Cryos exchange a look as they wait a FEW BEATS for a reply, not sure what to expect.

FELDSPAR (VO)
(14) He has some crust evoking that ancient treaty.

CRYOS
(15) Be that as you may. Tell Lord Mantel I am here to see him.

FELDSPAR
(v.o.-very official)
(16) (after a beat) In the name of Lord Mantel, the Rock of Rock, I grant you safe passage....for now.

EXT. THE AURORA - CONTINUOUS

The Battle-moons' cannons and defenses retract into hiding. The two moons move aside and open a path.

INT. CRYOS' SHIP

Graveheart smiles.

GRAVEHEART
(17) There, that wasn't so bad.

EXT. PLANET ROCK

The Aurora flies down to Rock surface and rises up the base of Anvilla until it is over the city.

EXT. ROCK SPACEPORT - DAY

Cryos' ship lands in ANVILLA, somewhere relatively close to the center of the city and the Temple.

EXT. SURFACE OF ROCK

Graveheart and Cryos exit the ship. They come out empty-handed (no weapons). As they do, JADE (wearing a helmet) and FOUR ROYAL GUARDS march up to confront them. Jade carries her weapon and the guards are armed.

Graveheart smiles and steps toward Jade, pleased to see her.

GRAVEHEART

(18) Jade?

In answer, she removes her helmet, but her face is grim and as hard as her voice when she speaks.

GRAVEHEART
(19) Its good to see you. I was hoping-
-

She raises her weapon and cuts him off in mid-sentence.

JADE
(overriding,harsh)

(20) Graveheart, in the name of Lord Mantel, you are under arrest.

The Guards surround Graveheart and Cryos.

CRYOS
(21) We were promised safe passage.

Jade gives Cryos a look as cold as any he could generate.

JADE
(to Cryos)
(22) You have diplomatic immunity...But he...(indicating Graveheart)...must answer to Lord Mantel.

She turns on her heel and gestures as she strides off. Graveheart and Cryos follow, surrounded by the Guards.

CLOSER ON GRAVEHEART AND CRYOS

Graveheart looks deeply troubled.

CRYOS
(sotto)
(23) I take it she was a friend of yours?

GRAVEHEART
(24) The best. I'd trust her with my life.

Cryos looks at Jade's stiff back.

CRYOS
(25) Why would you value your life so cheaply?

EXT. STREETS OF THE CITY - MINUTES LATER

Graveheart and Cryos are marched along, their footsteps echoing in the rock city as though in a vast tomb.

CLOSER ON GRAVEHEART AND CRYOS

Graveheart is deeply troubled by this.

GRAVEHEART
(26) And I thought the reception on your world was cold?

EXT. THE TEMPLE

They are marched along toward the temple. The drawbridge <KROKKKS> down and they are marched across.

The imposing Temple looms over them as they enter.

INT. ROYAL COURT - LORD MANTEL'S THRONE ROOM

Long shafts of sharp light illuminate the throne atop its steep flight of stairs. Graveheart and Cryos are marched to a stop at the base of the stairs.

INTERCUT with LORD MANTEL, who sits on his throne, glaring down on them, his voice BOOMING from on high when he speaks.

Jade goes up a few steps, halts and puts her fists together in a salute to Lord Mantel.

JADE
(27) My Lord, I've brought the Ice King and the miner, as you commanded.

Graveheart looks up and states to speak. Lord Mantel is simmering anger, building throughout the exchange:

GRAVEHEART
(28) Lord Mantel. I bring you...

LORD MANTEL
(barely restrained anger)
(29) Silence! Were you not sent on a mission with my greatest quarriors?

GRAVEHEART
(30) Yes, my Lord. That is what I must tell you.

LORD MANTEL
(31) Where are they? Why aren’t they here?

GRAVEHEART
(32) They were slain, my lord. All of them.

LORD MANTEL
(33) And why weren’t you ?

GRAVEHEART
(34) I was lucky. And if it wasn’t for the sonic canon...

LORD MANTEL
(35) And now you stand with my greatest enemy.

CRYOS
(36) He has information that affects us all, Mantel.

CLOSE ON MANTEL - he is not a happy camper.

LORD MANTEL
(37) Enough! Leave my planet, Ice King, or I'll have you reduced to slush.

CRYOS
(38) Surely you would not ignore a warning from your own people.

LORD MANTEL
(39) He is... no longer.

The Guards move in to force Cryos to leave. He stands his ground, ready to fight. Graveheart quickly intercedes.

GRAVEHEART
(to Cryos)
(40) Go, Your Majesty, please. You can do nothing more here.

CRYOS
(41) Very well. It appears I have overstayed my welcome.

Cryos looks to Lord Mantel.

CRYOS (cont'd)
(42) But you'd do well to heed his warning, Rock Lord.

Cryos leaves. Graveheart turns to face Mantel and steps onto the first step.

GRAVEHEART
(43) My Lord--

Jade steps to block his way, her face set and weapon ready. Graveheart backs down, troubled. Graveheart pulls a mineral crystal out of a pocket and holds it up.

GRAVEHEART
(44) Jade, please...this data-crystal will explain everything.

He holds it out and Jade takes it.

LORD MANTEL

(45) Save your breath. You are charged with treason, and you will answer for it. Guards!

GRAVEHEART
(46) But, the crystal--

The Guards seize Graveheart and pull him away. He doesn't fight them and goes with one final look at Jade, silently imploring her help. Jade looks anywhere but at him.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE PLANET REMORA - TO ESTABLISH

There's a mammoth hole in the heart of the planet, cut by the Beast Drones. We move into the total blackness of the hole.

INT. REMORA - A GIANT CAVE

The blackness collapses upon itself and becomes VOYD. He stands silently in the cave. A BEAT LATER, BLOKK and LAMPREY step out of him. They look around.

LAMPREY
(48) Not much to look at, but I suppose it will serve...for now.

BLOKK
(49) Who cares how it looks. Our mission is to destroy and conquer.

They begin to square off.

LAMPREY
(50) No, Blokk, we were sent here to <u>test</u> the strengths and weaknesses of these worlds.

BLOKK
(51) ..AND destroy their defenses. And the quickest way to do that is with my Drones. So stay out of my way, Lamprey.

Voyd settles the argument with a single gesture. He brings a hand down between them. Lamprey and Blokk fall back, clearly afraid of Voyd. Voyd points to Blokk. Blokk gives Lamprey a triumphant look.

BLOKK
(52) Voyd agrees.
(calling out)
Beast Drones, to me!

BEAST DRONES pour into the cave, coming out of Voyd's body. It looks as though their numbers will never stop, as we:

FADE OUT

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. ANVILLA SPACEPORT - CONTINUOUS

Cryos, escorted by Guards, is taken back to his ship by a different means on one of the aerial "ore-cart trams".

The Guards march Cryos to his ship, then stop. Cryos turns and looks back toward the Temple, as though he might change his mind and go charging back.

Quickly, one of the Guards raises his weapon at Cryos.

GUARD
(53) Fly fast, Insect. Before we forget about the treaty.

CRYOS
(54) Graveheart led me to believe there was more to you Rock People. How sad that he is wrong.

Cryos enters his ship. An instant later, it lifts off.

CUT TO:

EXT. ANVILLA PRISON - DAY

The prison is a grim tower of stone.

INT. ANVILLA PRISON - GRAVEHEART'S CELL

Graveheart paces his cell. As he looks out the window, he SEES Cryos' ship flare away into space.

Graveheart slumps against a stone wall and closes his eyes.

MOVE IN on Graveheart's face, then RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK SCENE - TEKLA'S DEATH

As Graveheart kneels by her, we hear:

TEKLA (ECHOING)
(with effort)
Promise me, man of stone. Complete my mission. Warn the worlds of this system. Stop the Beast Planet.

CUT TO PRESENT: CLOSE ON GRAVEHEART'S EYE as they snap open.

WIDER - GRAVEHEART AND JADE

Jade stands outside the cell door. She holds up the crystal.

JADE
(55) You BELIEVE this nonsense?

GRAVEHEART

(56) I don't just believe it, Jade. I lived it.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET ROCK - ESTABLISHING SHOT

Camera track into the Moon Control Core.

CUT TO:

INT.BATTLE MOON CONTROL CORE

ROCK TEK
Prepare to deactivate the moons.

Cryos' ship flashes past the Moons, away from Rock.

PAN AWAY to another part of nearby space. Blokk's ship lurks out of direct line of sight beyond the Moons, flanked by a large armada of drone ships.

INT. BLOKK'S SHIP

He speaks into a comm-device.

BLOKK
(57) I am in position. Stand by for my signal.

He hits a control on the ship's controls.

BLOKK (cont'd)
Now! Let the carnage begin.

EXT. BLOKK'S SHIP

The Drone Ships containing the Beast Drones launch toward Planet Rock.

FOLLOW THEM long enough to see them shoot safely between two of the Battle-Moons and zoom toward the surface.

CUT TO:

INT. ANVILLA PRISON - GRAVEHEART'S CELL

GRAVEHEART
(58) Did Lord Mantel even look at the crystal?

JADE
(59) He looked. He thinks you're a madman.

GRAVEHEART
(60) And what do you think?

Jade hesitates. She studies him a few BEATS.

JADE
(61) I prefer not to.

GRAVEHEART
(64) Jade, Lord Mantel will listen to you. You must make him see reason.

JADE
(63) I'm only a soldier. I follow orders.

GRAVEHEART
The threat of the Beast Planet is real. The cluster must work together or we're doomed to perish separately.

Graveheart leans forward against the cell bars.

CUT TO:

EXT. ANVILLA- CONTINUOUS

The Drone Ships drop a rain of bomb-shaped CONTAINMENT UNITS.

The CONTAINMENT UNITS hit the rocks.

Null-energy seems to grow out of each one, rising up in the form of a heavily-armed BEAST DRONE that turns and fires at any moving object.

More Drones spread out and begin to rampage destructively as ALARMS GO OFF all over the city.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET ROCK - BATTLE-MOON DEFENSE NODE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ANVILLA

The Beast Drones blast their way through the Quarriors defending the building.

CLOSE ON a Quarrior as he falls under the onslaught of a Beast Drone.

INT. BATTLE-MOON DEFENSE NODE - CONTINUOUS

The Beast Drones surge inside, taking out more defenders inside the building.

ENTRANCE TO CONTROL CORE

Heavy-duty security doors roll shut over the only entrance to the room just as the Beast Drones charge at it.

Temporarily held back by the doors, the Drones begin BLASTING AWAY at it.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE - BLOKK'S SHIP

BLOKK
(65) Ahhh. Life is good.

CUT TO:

INT. ANVILLA PRISON - GRAVEHEART’S CELL

Where Jade and Graveheart are interrupted by the ALARMS echoing across the city. Graveheart clenches his fists.

GRAVEHEART
(67) They're here, and I’m helpless.

Jade starts down the hall.

JADE
(68) If this is your doing...

Graveheart is exasperated by her statement.

GRAVEHEART
(69) Oh com'on Jade. You know me better than that.

JADE
(70) I'm not sure I know you at all. After you quit the army...

GRAVEHEART
(71) Don't go there. Now's not the time or place.

Another explosion rocks the corridor.

JADE
(72) Don't move.

Jade turns to leave.

GRAVEHEART
(sarcastic and shouting to her)
(73) Like I have a choice!

CUT TO:

INT. BATTLE-MOON CONTROL CORE - CONTINUOUS

Deep inside the Node building are the true controls for the moons, run by Rock technicians.

ROCK TECH
(66) Seal off the control core!
INT. PRISON COMM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jade enters. The Guards give her the fist salute and stand aside so she can speak with SERGEANT FELDSPAR on a monitor.

JADE
(74) Feldspar! Status!

FELDSPAR
(75) Unidentified invader attacking the planet, Commander. Battle-Moon Control Core is sealed, but we can't hold out.

JADE
(76) Ice Mites?

FELDSPAR
(77) Nothing we've ever seen before. It appears to be null-matter bound by a genesis matrix.

Jade reacts with shock.

INT. BATTLE-MOON CONTROL CORE - CONTINUOUS

The Beast Drones are approaching the Battle-Moon Control Core. Inside the Rock Tek's brace themselves for battle.

CUT TO:

INT. ANVILLA PRISON - GRAVEHEART'S CELL

Graveheart paces, very agitated.

SUDDENLY, THE DOOR TO HIS CELL OPENS. Jade stands there holding two SONIC CANNONS, one for her, one for him.

JADE
(78) So maybe you've haven't gone mad.

She hands Graveheart a cannon as he hurries out. He assumes a natural air of command. They hurry down a corridor.

GRAVEHEART
(79) Situation?

JADE
(80) The Control Core is under assault. All access has been cut off.

GRAVEHEART
(81) Without the control core, there's no way of activating the defense moons. Rock would be helpless.

Jade powers up her sonic cannon.

JADE
(82) Not if I have something to say about it.

Graveheart gives Jade a look then stops at an intersection of rock corridors and looks down a darker side path from the one they were taking.

GRAVEHEART
(83) Remember that tunnel...

JADE
(84) How could you think of that now.

GRAVEHEART

(85) No! I mean the one when we were kids...

Take on Jade slightly embarrassed.

GRAVEHEART
(86) ...the one that led directly to the Battle-Moon Core!

He gestures with his cannon toward the darker path.

GRAVEHEART (CONT)

You and me against the odds. Just like old times.

JADE
(87) Don’t remind me.

As they run side by side into the dark corridor, we:

CUT TO:

INT. BATTLE-MOON CONTROL CORE - CONTINUOUS

The Beast Drones are attempting to break down the sealed entrance. The Rock Teks await anxiously for the impending battle.

FADE OUT

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. PLANET FIRE - TO ESTABLISH

It hangs in space.

CUT TO:

INT. THE AURORA - SIMULTANEOUS -OUTSIDE ROCK MOONS

Cryos activates a COMM-LINK.

CRYOS
(97) Cryos of Ice to Planet Fire. It is imperative that I speak to your Prince.

INT. IMPERIAL PALACE OF PRINCE PYRUS - CONTINUOUS

The GRAND VIZIER takes the call on a monitor.

VIZIER
(98) Go away, Iceworlder! The Prince cares nothing for you or your world!

CRYOS
(99) What I have to say concerns us all. Planet Rock is under attack by a new enemy. I must speak to the Prince.

VIZIER
(angry)
(100) You speak as if we should care. The problem is theirs to resolve.

The comm-link in abruptly broken.

CUT TO:

INT. TUNNELS - CONTINUOUS

Jade and Graveheart hurry through. Suddenly, the tunnel SHAKES violently from blasts on the surface.

They hurry around a corner and come to an abrupt stop. The tunnel has been walled off with huge blocks of stone.

JADE
(89) We've gone the wrong way.

GRAVEHEART
(90) No, they've blocked the tunnel.

Jade powers up her Sonic Cannon.

JADE
(91) So they have.

She turns smiles and they nod. Together they turn their cannons on the stone wall and blow it away.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL CORE - SIMULTANEOUS

ON THE DOOR as the Beast Drone BURST THROUGH! They fire their weapons at the Rock Techs, who fall back under cover of their own, inadequate fire.

Suddenly, there's an explosion from OS that drives back the front line of Beast Drones.

Graveheart leaps past the Rock Techs, firing his cannon.

GRAVEHEART
(92) Jade, get them out of here!

Jade stands beside the tunnel, herding the Techs inside.

JADE
(93) This way! Now!

Graveheart continues battling the Beast Drones, firing away.

A Drone comes around with a clear shot at Graveheart's back.

Jade leaps between the Drone and Graveheart to protect his back, and fires at the Drone.

REVERSE ANGLE

Her blast hits the Drone’s CONTAINMENT UNIT, and it IMPLODES.

Back to back, the two Rock warriors fight on. But as hard as they fight, a Drone gets past them and turns its weapon on the controls in the Core. It gets off a blast before Jade manages to take it out.

That section of the Battle-Moons control system EXPLODES!

CUT TO:

INT. BLOKK'S SHIP - SIMULTANEOUS

as the impatient Blokk hears the SIGNAL he was waiting for.

BLOKK
(94) The advantage is ours! Drone Armada... ATTACK!

EXT. THE ARMADA

Engines flare up as the Armada moves toward the planet.

CUT TO:

INT. BATTLE-MOONS CONTROL CORE - CONTINUOUS

Graveheart and Jade temporarily driven back the Beast Drones. Jade looks at the smoking hole in the controls.

GRAVEHEART
(95) Can you do anything?

JADE
(96) Doubt it, but I'll try.

As she goes to work on the console, Graveheart turns just in time to take on the next wave of attacking Beast Drones.

CUT TO:

INT. THE CONTROL CORE - CONTINUOUS

Graveheart fights a holding action against the final Drone.

Jade works feverishly at the controls. Finally, lights and power come up on part of the console. Grim, Jade presses the controls.

JADE
(101) Get ready.

SMASH-CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE - SURROUNDING PLANET ROCK - CONTINUOUS

The Beast Drone armada moves closer toward the seemingly-helpless Planet. Suddenly, like the moon rising at night, all of Planet Rock's Battle-Moons rise up behind the armada, bringing their weapons to bear.

INT. BATTLE-MOONS CONTROL CORE - CONTINUOUS

Lights and power come up in another part of the control core where a spiffy-looking super high-tech MANUAL CONTROL CHAIR pops up from the floor.

JADE
(102) Manual control on-line! Get in!

Graveheart gets into the chair. Instantly, a cybernetic CONTROL HELMET and HAND CONTROLS CLAMP ONTO HIM.

GRAVEHEART'S POV - CYBER-GRID

He now sees the Armada from the POV of the Battle-Moons.

GRAVEHEART (VO)
(103) Got them in my sights.

RESUME GRAVEHEART

He "fires" the manual controls, swivelling this way and that in the control chair.

EXT. SPACE - THE BATTLE-MOONS

respond to his cybernetic commands, swivelling around and BLASTING!!!

Many Drone ships IMPLODE as each's containment unit is hit. The atmosphere of the Battle moons allowing the sonics to work.

INT. BLOKK'S SHIP

BLOKK
(105) Retreat!

ON THE ARMADA

As one, the ships turn and retreat quickly, with the Battle-Moons continuing to fire and take out the stragglers.

INSIDE THE CONTROL CORE

As the control chair DEACTIVATES, the helmet rises, and Graveheart gets out.

GRAVEHEART
(106) They're gone...for now. But this was only a taste of what's to come.

CUT TO:

INT. ROYAL COURT - LORD MANTEL'S THRONE ROOM

Jade and Graveheart stand before a grim Lord Mantel.

GRAVEHEART
(107) You see, My Lord? The Beast Planet overwhelms, it swarms before devouring its enemy. Rock cannot stand alone.

He turns to speak to the other in the court.

LORD MANTEL
(108) And I cannot permit an alliance with our most hated enemies.

Lord Mantel doesn't look happy. He stares hard at Graveheart.

GRAVEHEART
(109) But you've seen the Beast's power...

LORD MANTEL
(110) And they've seen ours! Our Battle-Moons can handle them if need be.

They simply took us by surprise this time. It won't happen again.

Lord Mantel thinks it over.

LORD MANTEL (cont'd)
Still, we do owe you a small debt for your help in driving off the invaders.

GRAVEHEART
(111) You owe me nothing, Lord Mantel.

LORD MANTEL
(112) Then swear loyalty only to Rock, and you will once again be welcome here.

GRAVEHEART
(113) I can't. Our only hope of survival is uniting all the worlds of our sun against the Beast.

LORD MANTEL
(measured)
(114) Then get out of my sight. Dare to return, and you will executed.

Graveheart turns proudly to leave.

LORD MANTEL (CONT'D)
Contact Cryos, tell him to come an pick up his new friend.

Graveheart looks sorrowful, then finds his resolve. He turns to leave, then pauses to look at Jade.

LORD MANTEL CONTINUED
EXHILE!!!

CLOSE ON JADE

She watches Graveheart exit the room, her face impassive. But there is something in her eyes. Did what Graveheart said to Lord Mantel get through to her? Has it made a difference?

CUT TO:

EXT. ROCK SPACEPORT - CRYOS' SHIP - MINUTES LATER

Cryos waits at the entrance to his ship. Graveheart, looking unhappy, is about to board.

CRYOS

(115) I've attempted to contact Prince Pyrus of Fire. His Vizier, though, is a bit...overprotective.

GRAVEHEART
(116) Then we'll just have to find some way around him.

A determined Graveheart walks past Cryos.

JADE (OS)
(117) Not so fast.

Graveheart's face lights up as he whirls around. Jade walks up to join them.

JADE (CONT)
I'm going with you.

GRAVEHEART
(hopefully)
(118) Then you do believe in the Alliance?

JADE
(119) No, but I believe in you. And somebody has to watch your back...with this ice flea around.

She jerks her head to indicate Cryos.

CRYOS
(120) Charming. I must say this is the start of a beautiful friendship.

Together, they walk towards the ship.

FADE OUT

THE END